



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Colonial
National
Historical Park

P.O. Box 210
Yorktown, VA
23690

757-898-2410 phone
757-898-6346 fax

Historic Jamestowne News Release

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Contact(s): Mike Byrd
Phonenumber: 757- 898-2422
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The 1676 Burning of Jamestown to be Recreated: Bacon's Rebellion Programs at Historic Jamestowne

Jamestown, Va. - Rebellion will be the focus of a special evening tour at Historic Jamestowne on Saturday, September 19. The evening walking tour will take visitors through the colonial town site and present the events leading to the burning of Virginia's 17th-century capital on September 19, 1676. This program marks the 339th anniversary of the rebellion, which was a power struggle between two of colonial Virginia's strongest personalities: Governor Sir William Berkeley and Nathaniel Bacon. The walking tour begins at 7:00 p.m. at the Tercentennial Monument overlooking the James River.

Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in North America, served as the capital of Virginia throughout the 17th-century. In 1676 a major rebellion erupted across Virginia in which citizens chose to follow Nathaniel Bacon, the rebel leader, or Governor Sir William Berkeley, the crown's representative in the colony. The climax of the rebellion occurred on September 19, 1676, when Bacon and his followers destroyed Jamestown by setting fires throughout the town site.

During the Saturday evening walking tour, details of this dramatic event will unfold as visitors experience the conflict through the "eyewitness" account of Thomas Matthew, a burgess in Virginia's General Assembly in 1676. He will lead visitors from one stop in the town site to another to hear the accounts of other eyewitnesses to the rebellion. Controlled fires will recreate the burning of Jamestown as it occurred on September 19, 1676. The walking tour will last an hour and a half and cover a short distance. Visitors should wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a flashlight and insect repellent.

During the day on Saturday, join Sir William Berkeley, governor of Virginia, as he recounts his time in Virginia and the unhappy circumstances that led to the rebellion. This program will be held in the Memorial Church at 10:30 am, 1:00 & 3:00 pm.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Bacon's Rebellion Programs at Historic Jamestowne

If You Go

Historic Jamestowne, the site of America's first permanent English settlement, offers a wealth of family activities on the island. Witness archaeology-in-action at the 1607 James Fort excavation, watch costumed glassblowers demonstrate one of America's first industries at the Glasshouse and visit the original 17th-century church tower. Explore the Natalie P. and Alan M. Voorhees Archaearium, an archaeology museum filled with unique artifacts from the James Fort site and tour the remains of New Towne, the historic town site dating from the 1620s. The Visitor Center offers exhibits, a multimedia presentation and a museum store.

The Historic Jamestowne Visitor Center and museum store will remain open until 7 pm on Saturday night. All programs and demonstrations are included in the joint Colonial National Historical Park and Preservation Virginia seven-day admission fee of \$14.00 per adult (which also includes Yorktown Battlefield). Children under age 16 and holders of Federal Interagency Military and Access passes (with up to three additional adults) are admitted free. Preservation Virginia memberships are accepted, but a \$5 fee may apply for entrance to Historic Jamestowne. Federal Interagency Passes and Golden Age and Golden Access passports to the National Parks are accepted, but a \$5 fee may apply for entrance to Historic Jamestowne.

Historic Jamestowne is jointly administered by the National Park Service and the Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation on behalf of Preservation Virginia and preserves the original site of the first permanent English settlement in the New World.

For further information, visit www.nps.gov/colo or www.HistoricJamestowne.org or call (757) 898-2410 or (757) 229-4997.

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